

U.S. Application No.: 09/995,217 Examiner: P.C. Wilder Art Unit: 2623
Amendment in Response to October 5, 2006 Office Action
Docket: BS00335

IN THE CLAIMS:

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Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A broadcast signals receiver comprising:
 - a tuner adapted to select broadcast signals that are broadcast in multiple channels;
 - a microcomputer in communication with the tuner;
 - a memory in communication with the microcomputer; and
 - an output device in communication with the tuner,
wherein the microcomputer is adapted to store preliminary channel information, from at least one of tuner activities of a user and other external sources, in a memory of a receiver, and to monitor activities of the tuner and to store a result of the monitoring in the memory,
 - wherein the microcomputer generates a programming guide based at least in part on the result, and
 - wherein when the programming guide is reproduced on the output device when the receiver is powered on or when the programming guide is requested by a user of the receiver.
2. (Original) The receiver of claim 1, wherein the microcomputer is adapted to receive programming information from one or more source computers via a computer network.
3. (Original) The receiver of claim 2, wherein the programming information is received on a daily basis.
4. (Original) The receiver of claim 2, wherein the programming guide is generated based at least in part on the programming information.
5. (Original) The receiver of claim 1, wherein the programming guide comprises a list of one or more channels.

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6. (Original) The receiver of claim 5, wherein at least one of the channels is a favorite channel as determined based on a habit of the user that was previously established over a duration.
7. (Original) The receiver of claim 6, wherein the duration is between two and four weeks.
8. (Original) The receiver of claim 6, wherein at least one of the channels is a suggested channel that is similar to the favorite channel.
9. (Original) The receiver of claim 1, wherein the microcomputer is adapted to receive user data from the user.
10. (Original) The receiver of claim 9, wherein the programming guide is generated based at least in part on the user data.
11. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a programming guide for a receiver, comprising the steps of:
storing preliminary channel information, from at least one of tuner activities of a user and other external sources, in a memory of a receiver;
monitoring how a tuner of the receiver is controlled by a user over a duration;
reducing a result of how the tuner of the receiver is controlled by the user over the duration the monitoring step to a habit of the user for using the receiver;
generating a programming guide based at least in part on the habit; and
reproducing the programming guide on an output device of the receiver when the receiver is powered on or when the programming guide is requested by the user.
12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of obtaining programming information from one or more source computers via a computer network.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the programming guide is generated based at least in part on the programming information.

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14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising ~~the step of~~ obtaining user data from the user.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the programming guide is generated based at least in part on the user data.

16. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the programming guide comprises one or more channels.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein at least one of the channels is a favorite channel as determined based on the habit.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein at least one of the channels is a suggested channel that is similar to the favorite channel.

19. (Original) The method of claim 11, where in the duration is between two and four weeks.

20. (Original) The method of 11, further comprising the step of verifying an identity of the user, and wherein the programming guide is generated specifically for the user after the identity of the user has been verified.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for generating programming guides, comprising ~~the steps of~~:
storing preliminary channel information, from at least one of tuner activities of a user and other external sources, in a memory of a receiver;

accepting a designation of one or more favorite channels from [[a]] the user of the receiver;

obtaining programming information for the favorite channels from one or more of the external sources;

generating a programming guide comprising the favorite channels and associated daily schedules obtained from the external sources; and

reproducing the programming guide when the receiver is powered on or when the programming guide is requested by the user.

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22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the preliminary channel information comprises network addresses of broadcast stations.
23. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the source computers are accessible via a computer network using the network addresses.
24. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the programming information for the favorite channels is obtained on a daily basis.
25. (Currently Amended) A method for generating programming guides, comprising the steps of:
storing preliminary channel information, from at least one of tuner activities of a user and other external sources, in a memory of a receiver;
monitoring a manner in which a tuner of [[a]] the receiver is controlled by [[a]] the user;
establishing a habit of the user based at least in part on results obtained from the monitoring step the manner in which the tuner of the receiver is controlled by the user;
creating a list of one or more favorite channels based on the habit;
obtaining programming information for the favorite channels from one or more external sources;
adding to the list one or more suggested channels based on the programming information;
generating a programming guide comprising the favorite channels and the suggested channels; and
reproducing the programming guide when the receiver is powered on or when the programming guide is requested by the user.
26. (Currently Amended) A method for using a receiver, comprising the steps of:
powering on the receiver;
storing preliminary channel information, from at least one of tuner activities of a user and other external sources, in a memory of a receiver;
reproducing a programming guide on an output device of the receiver, wherein

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the programming guide comprises one or more favorite channels;
tuning in a default channel if no specific channel is selected by a user of the receiver within a predetermined period of time; and
notifying the user when a favorite program is about to start on a channel that is different from the default channel.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26, further comprising ~~the step of generating the programming guide based on a designation by the user.~~
28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26, further comprising ~~the step of generating the programming guide based on a habit of the user.~~
29. (Currently Amended) A method for using a receiver accessible to a plurality of users, comprising ~~the steps of:~~
 - powering on the receiver;
 - determining an identity of a user;
 - storing preliminary channel information, from at least one of tuner activities of the user and other external sources, in a memory of a receiver;
 - reproducing a programming guide on an output device of the receiver, wherein the programming guide is unique to the user;
 - tuning in a default channel if no specific channel is selected by the user of the receiver within a predetermined period of time; and
 - notifying the user when a favorite program is about to start on a channel that is different from the default channel.
30. (Currently Amended) A method for using a receiver, comprising ~~the steps of:~~
 - powering on the receiver;
 - determining the day and time on which the receiver is powered on;
 - storing preliminary channel information, from at least one of tuner activities of a user and other external sources, in a memory of a receiver;
 - reproducing a programming guide on an output device of the receiver, wherein

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the programming guide comprises programming information of one or more favorite channels for a number of hours starting from the time on the determining step; and

tuning in a default channel if no specific channel is selected by the user of the receiver within a predetermined period of time.

31. (Currently Amended) A broadcast signals receiver comprising:

a tuner adapted to select broadcast signals that are broadcast in multiple channels;

a microcomputer in communication with the tuner,

wherein the microcomputer stores in a memory preliminary channel information,
from at least one of tuner activities of a user and other external sources, and a manner in which the tuner is controlled by a user over a time period,

wherein the microcomputer interprets the manner as a habit of the viewer,

wherein the microcomputer retrieves programming information related to the habit from one or more external sources,

wherein the microcomputer generates a programming guide based on the habit and the programming information, and

wherein the microcomputer presents the programming guide to the viewer via an output device of the receiver.